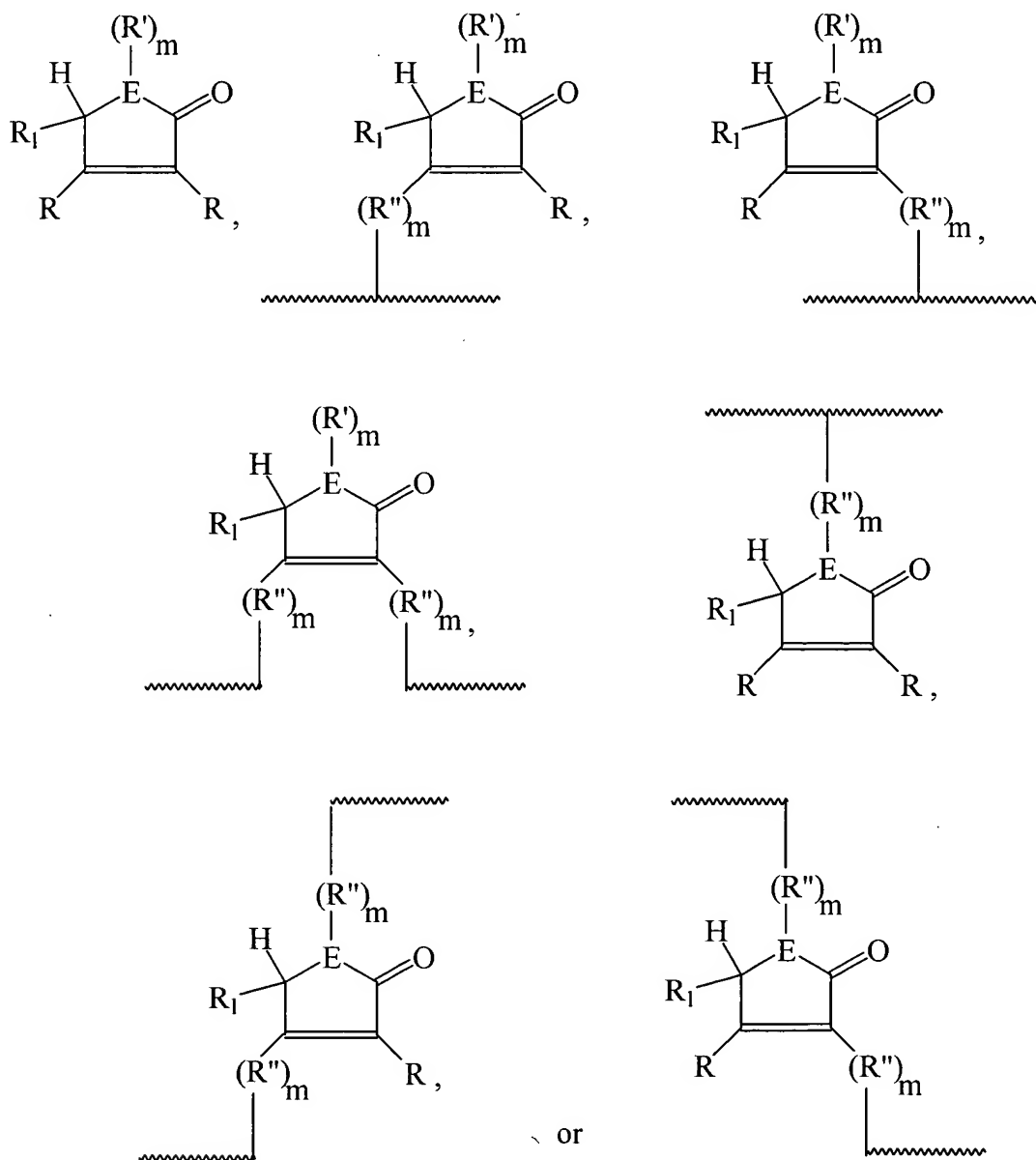


CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 to 20 (Canceled)

- 1 Claim 21. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting the oxidation of a polymer
2 comprising adding to a polymer about 0.005 to about 10 phr of an antioxidant having the
3 general formula



4 where, when an antioxidant is not a phthalide, said polymer is selected from the group
 5 consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates, polyethers, polyethylene, polypropylene,
 6 and mixtures thereof and, when said antioxidant is a phthalide, said antioxidant is selected
 7 from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates, polyethers, and mixtures
 8 thereof, and where E is O, S, or N, ~~R₁~~ N₁; R₁ is H, R', OR', SR', OP(R')₂, or ~~COR'~~, COR', each
 9 COR'; each R is independently selected from R₁, alkylenyl from C₁ to C₁₂, aminoalkyl from
 10 C₁ to C₁₂, and hydroxyalkyl from ~~C₁ to C₁₂~~, R' C₁ to C₁₂; R' is alkyl from C₁ to C₁₂ or aryl,
 11 alkylaryl, or aralkyl from ~~C₆ to C₁₂~~, R'' C₆ to C₁₂; R'' is G, GO, GS, GNH, NHG, NHGO,
 12 NHGNH, NHGS, OG, OGO, OGNH, OGS, SGO, SGNH, or ~~SGS~~, SGS; G is alkylenyl
 13 from C₁ to C₁₂, arylenyl from C₆ to C₁₂, alkylarylenyl from C₇ to C₁₂, or arylalkylenyl from C₇
 14 to ~~C₁₂~~, C₁₂; m is 0 if E is O or S and is 1 if E is ~~N~~, N₁; and two R groups can join to
 15 form an alicyclic ring or an aromatic ring or an R group and an R₁ group can join to form
 16 an alicyclic ring.

Claim 22. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein E is O.

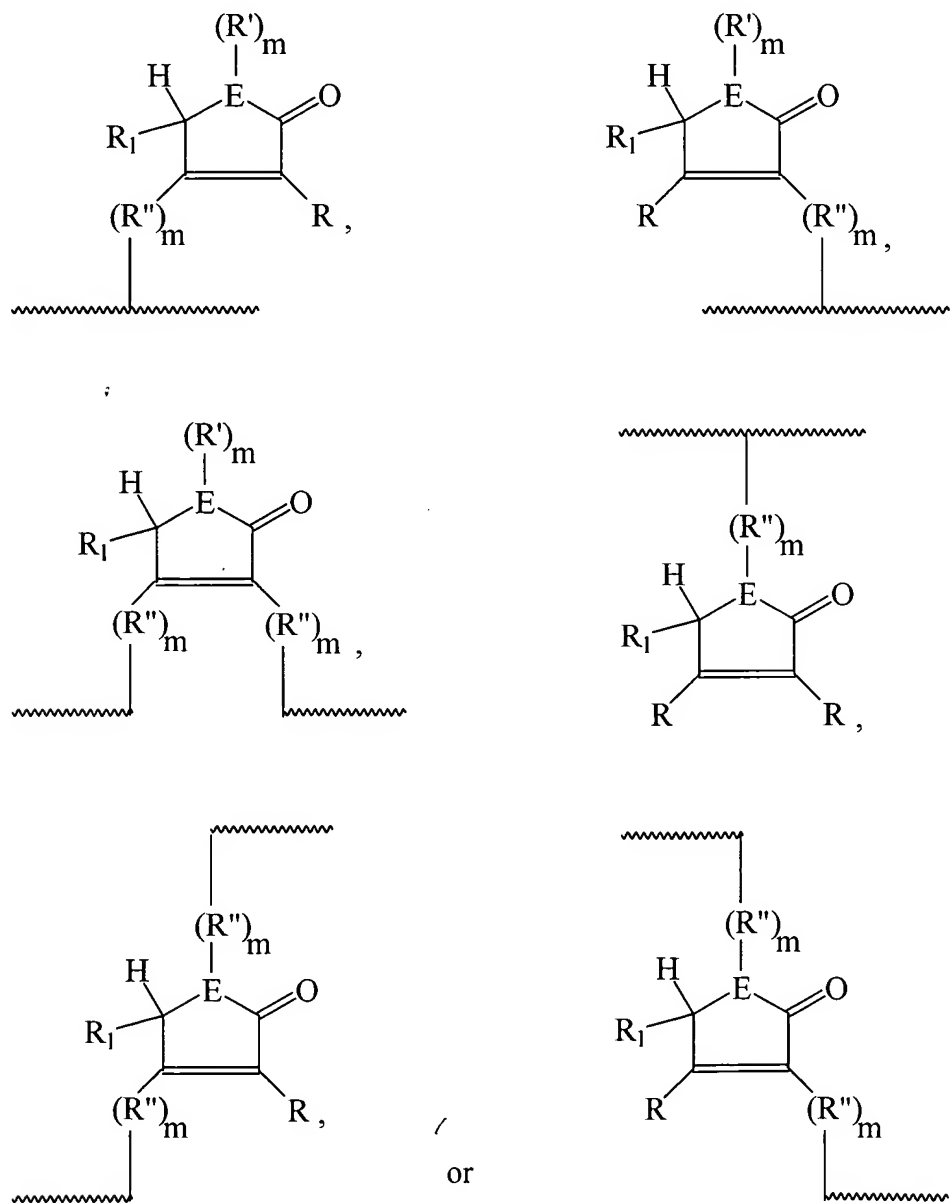
Claim 23. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein R is OR'.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein two R groups join to form an aromatic ring.

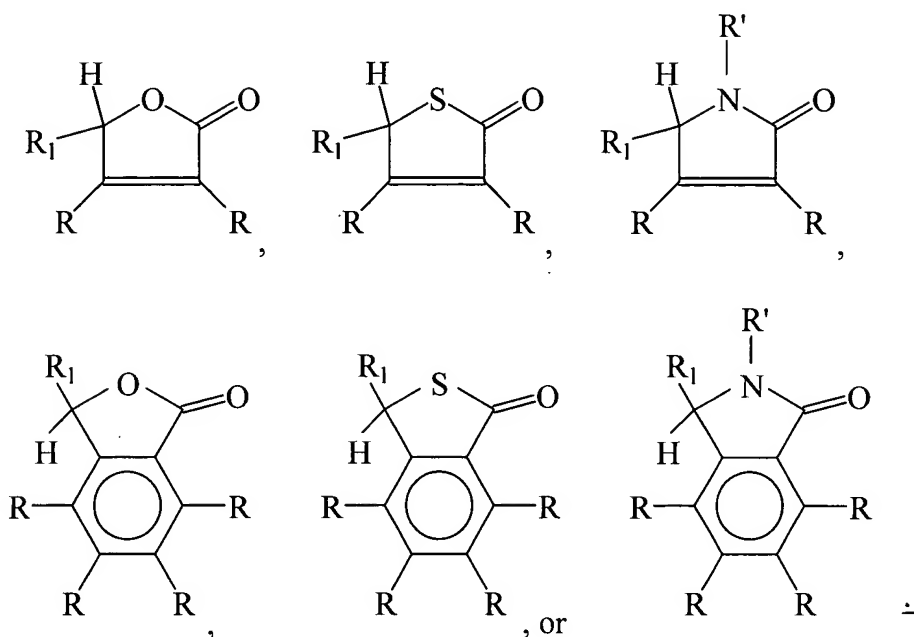
Claim 25. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein E is N and R' is alkyl from C₁ to C₁₂.

Claim 26. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein R₁ is H.

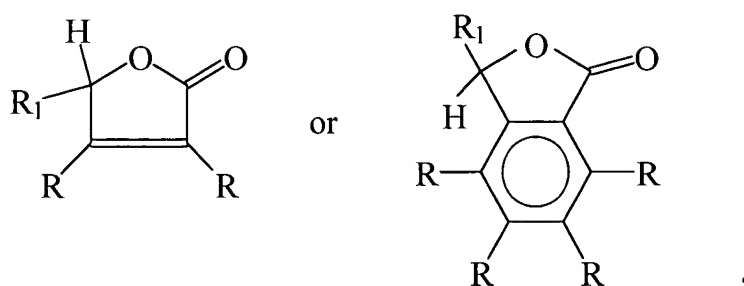
Claim 27. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant has the general formula



Claim 28. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant is



Claim 29. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 28 wherein said antioxidant has the formula



Claim 30. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 29 wherein R is OR' and

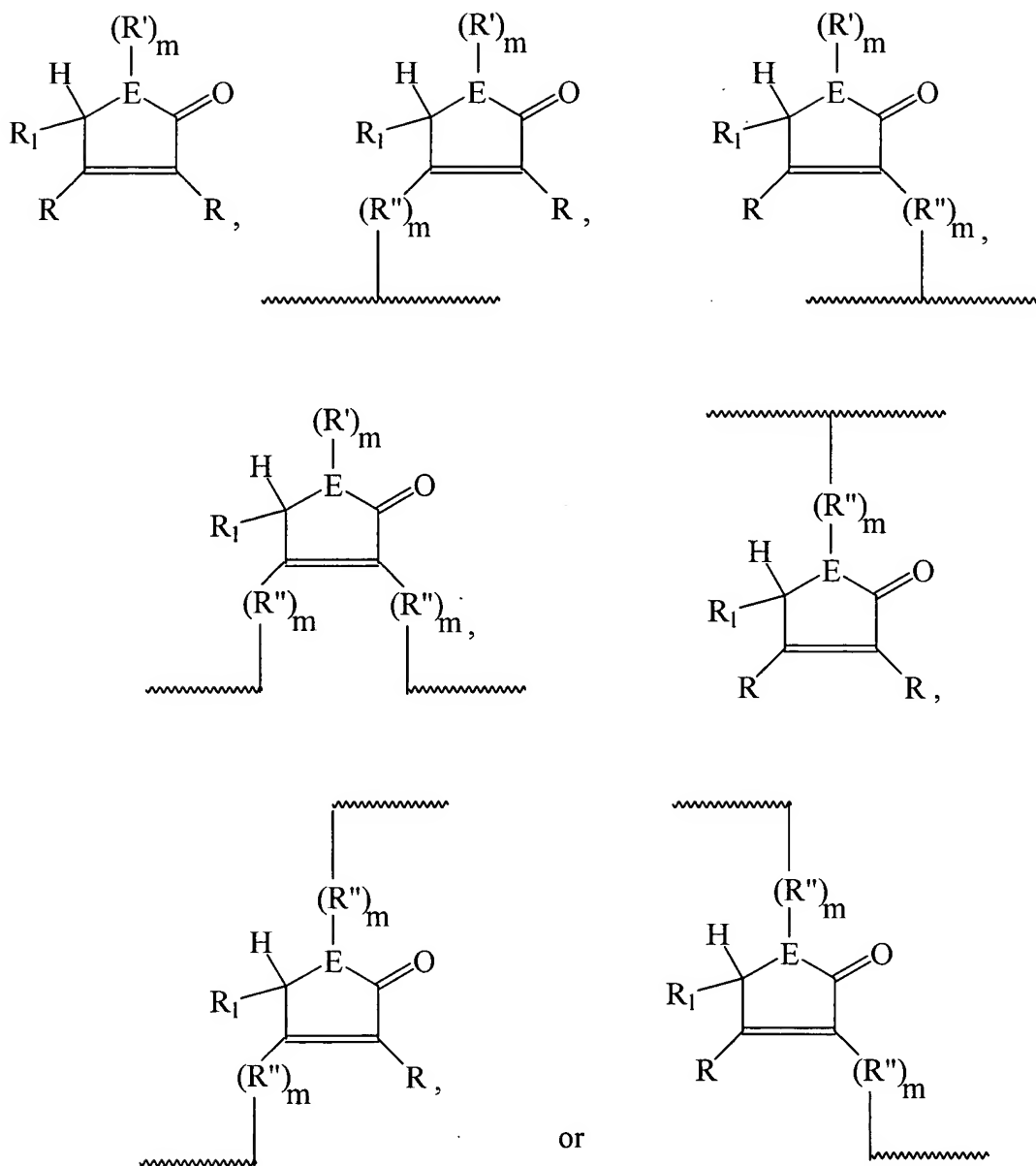
R₁ is H.

Claim 31. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polyethylene, polypropylene, polycarbonates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant is added during the polymerization of said polymer.

Claim 33. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant is added during compounding said polymer.

1 Claim 34. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting the oxidation of a polymer
2 comprising adding to a polymer selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride),
3 polycarbonates, polyethers, and mixtures thereof, about 0.005 to about 10 phr of an
4 antioxidant having the general formula



5 where each R is independently selected from H or $\Theta R'$, and R' is alkyl from C_1 to

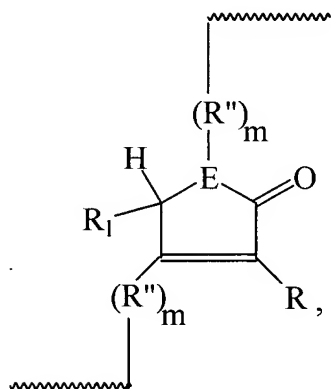
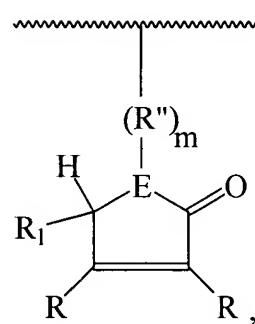
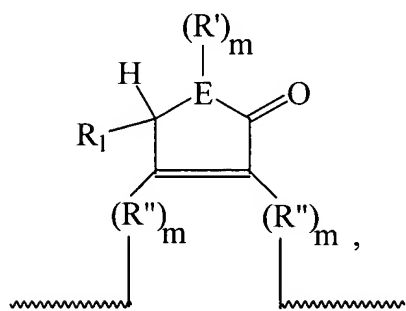
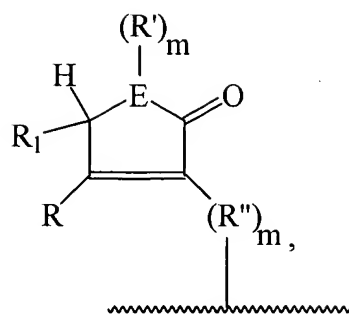
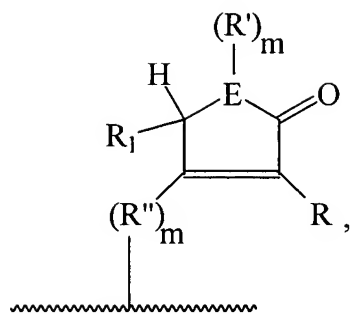
6 C_{12} , R_1 is H , R'' is alkylenyl from C_1 to C_{12} , arylenyl from C_6 to C_{12} ,

7 alkylarylenyl from C_7 to C_{12} , and or arylalkylenyl from C_7 to C_{12} , and E is O .

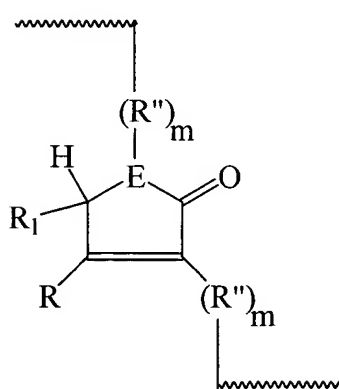
35. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 34 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates, and mixtures thereof.

36. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 34 wherein R is H.

37. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 34 wherein said antioxidant has the general formula

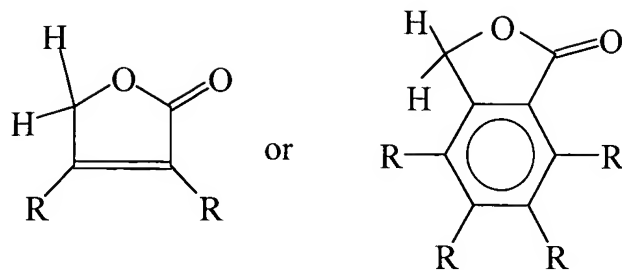


or



- 1 Claim 38. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting the oxidation of a polymer adding
- 2 to a polymer selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates,
- 3 polyethers, and mixtures thereof, during compounding about 0.2 to about 5 phr of an

4 antioxidant having the general formula



5 where each R is independently selected from H or OR' and R' is alkyl from C₁ to C₁₂.

Claim 39. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 38 wherein R is H.

Claim 40. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 38 wherein R is OR'.